

**2000-2007 -Branch & Executive Minutes – Forward Group** \*listed only, no content available

**2000**

2000-01Jan12                *Minutes of FG: Trade Union report, NDP Toronto ridings, NDP leadership campaign, Educational on bourgeois democracy & free trade*

2000-02Feb2                *Minutes of FG: Death of Arnie Mintz; Archives, NDP Toronto ridings, Federal NDP and 'Clarity Resolution'; deteriorating health of Ross (and Joyce); Resolution to Federal NDP on Quebec's unfettered right to self-determination*

2000-02Feb7                *Minutes of FG: Discussion on Ross Dowson obituary*

2000-03Mar29 *Minutes of FG: Codina case victory; Ross Dowson Memorial report; NDP-Metro clubs Socialist Caucus; Alberta Conference for Socialist Studies discussion, Educational on socialist democracy*

2000-04Apr26                *Minutes of FG: Correspondence re: Fourth International abandoning its Statutes reflects crisis in movement after death of Mandel; our future orientation; Statement read at May Day Celebration*

2000-05May16    *Minutes of FG: Discussion on evolution of Fourth International as a retreat from Trotskyism; Codina guilty of New York charges; Mummia Abu Jamal rally in New York City; Labor report on OSSTF (teachers) getting labor support; review of OSSTF struggles; NDP in Newfoundland*

2000-06June20    *Minutes of FG: Membership: Angie Codina in custody in N.Y.; NDP discussion on Socialist Caucus and party crisis; Report on Ross Dowson and summer educational activities*

2000-08Aug17    *Minutes of FG: National Archives; Joe Flexer commemoration; report on Angie Codina's incarceration, Kopyto receives over 1000 pages from CSIS under Freedom of Information; NDP: Hargrove-Rae split in perspectives; OSSTF teachers union fight against Bill 74; Special report on Quebec left nationalist forces & NDP from Abie Weisfeld*

2000-09Sept12    *Minutes of FG: Correspondence: discussion on Socialist Action; Dowson archives report; Codina report from USA, Labor Day parade report missing NDP support. OSSTF teachers union report & discussion*

2000-10Oct18    *Minutes of FG: NDP: Toronto municipal elections, upcoming federal election discussion on possible candidates (including special report on McLaughlin support for Valpy as high profile candidate); Labour: OSSTF (teachers) elections and tendencies*

2000-11Nov1    *Minutes of FG: Discussion on Tooker Gomberg mayoralty campaign; Kopyto report on RCMP Security Service archives he is examining in Ottawa; Dowson Archives report: meeting with National Archives for transfer of archives; "Rebuilding the Left" conference in Toronto of 500 mainly students; left currents in attendance; wide labor and left journal sponsorship; lack of discussion on NDP; NDP problems in Federal election campaign, Labor (OSSTF teachers) strike report and York U. Strike of teachers and assistants; Kopyto excluded from Law Union.*

2000-11Nov15    *Minutes of FG: Correspondence: Nader campaign in US presidential elections; Kopyto report on thousands of RCMP Security Service files on Young Socialists and LSA 1960-1970s alone;*

*details of surveillance activities including antiwar & university & women's movements; Report on "Rebuilding the Left" conference; radical currents in labor and student movements; the prevalence of new forces; an analysis of the nature of this youth sceptical anti-capitalism; Report on NDP in municipal elections; Quebec sovereignty back as an issue*

## **2001**

*2001-01Jan17 Minutes of FG (12pp): Correspondence: article in Canadian Lawyer sympathetic to Angie Codina; FG house party; Dowson Archives and library report; Second "Rebuilding the Left" conference attended by 100 activists and political tendencies, featuring consensus decisions with little concrete perspective or move toward bypassing NDP; Labor report CUPE York U. Strike wins support*

*2001-02Feb20 Minutes of FG (9pp): Discussion on Gomberg mayoralty candidature (3 pp); Dowson library being indexed; NDP in state of flux in BC, talk of Liberal coalition in Saskatchewan but support April protest against WTO in Quebec City; the NDP to re-examine its future via a leadership-controlled discussion – "options" listed; Kopyto to participate in "labor caucus" of Rebuilding the Left conference*

*2001-04Apr18 Minutes of FG (5pp): NDP report – SC, atmosphere of rethinking fundamentals and labor support in NDP*

*2001-05May15 Minutes of FG 7pp): Dowson Archives report: building a Fond at National Archives; NDP-Metro Toronto ridings debate internal democracy in selecting leadership and future of party; Educational on Ross's upcoming funeral and commemoration*

*2001-10Oct15 (Undated; assigned date) Minutes of FG: Discussion on upcoming (federal) NDP convention; our support for opposition to Afghanistan war; International situation: discussion; events of September 11 fallout.*

*\*2001-10Oct22 Minutes of FG (not available, referred to Feb. 4, 2002)*

*2001-10Oct29 (Undated; assigned date) Minutes of FG: NDP – Socialist Caucus running against Alexa McDonough; Report of new antiwar movement opposition to Afghanistan war, New Party Initiative (NPI) formed by Judy Rebick*

*\*2001-11Nov22 Minutes of FG: (not available, referred to Feb. 4, 2002)*

*2001-11Nov29 Minutes of FG: NDP convention; report by Kopyto with NPI forces winning 37% in vote for NDP dissolution, passing many left resolutions, Kopyto's role gathers support; future NPI role in NDP planned; the youth radicalization back; "An Open Letter to ... a Fellow Socialist" advising the left to withdraw from leadership campaign; "it is our duty to take (the NDP message) to the streets..."*

## **2002**

*2002-01Jan14 Minutes of FG: Membership: general discussion on ebb in class struggle; Marxism misunderstood by youth; the crisis of the left underscored by "Rebuilding the Left" and the NPI, "counter-minutes" discussion attachment*

*2002-02Feb4 Minutes of the FG: Discussion on the Jan. 14 Minutes; ways and means to disseminate*

*our orthodox Trotskyist views, NDP: NPI meeting of 200 in Toronto; work on Dowson archives; Note from JD re need for a FG bi-annual theoretical publication*

*2002-04Mar4 Minutes of FG: Discussion on the Ross Dowson funeral arrangements and memorial meeting – Kopyto assigned to draft tribute*

*2002-04Mar23 Minutes of FG: Dowson memorial tribute content and resources, including a video production*

*2002-04Apr3 Minutes of FG: Memorial meeting for Ross Dowson – visual production with script ready for June, organization of tribute and testimonials*

*2002-04Apr17 Minutes of FG: Membership & Contacts: Dispute within OSSTF over part-time teachers' local (Weisleder); Dowson memorial logistics; discussion on a projected power-point production*

*2002-06June8 Ross Dowson Memorial: Video presentation and recorded audience testimonials at Oakham House, Ryerson Campus, Toronto*

*2002-09Sept12 Minutes of FG: Dowson correspondence archives; Upcoming NDP leadership convention and the Jack Layton candidature deserving party left support*

*2002-09Sept26 Minutes of FG: NDP report: on the leadership campaign to whom we give critical support (vs. Socialist Caucus candidate's in sharp opposition to other candidates, and abstracted from issues as seen by membership); Kopyto educational on the Fourth International's World Congress and new international situation; Dowson archives report*

*2002-10Oct31 Minutes of FG: Discussion the Socialist Caucus NDP leadership candidate's (left sectarian) campaign; Educational on the Lula campaign in Brazil, Comrade forcibly prevented from distributing leaflet at teachers' meeting.*

*2002-11Nov14 Minutes of FG: Report on Dowson archives; Christmas social; NDP leadership campaign; OSSTF teachers' intervention; Codina disbarred in Ontario , currently jailed in New York.*

## **2003**

*2003-01Jan28 Minutes of FG: Correspondence: NDP leadership race; broad nature of Layton's candidature vs. Socialist Caucus's narrow and ultra-left program; other left & Québécois candidates.*

*2003-02Feb13 Minutes of FG: Report on Dowson archives now shipped to Ottawa and extras to Trent U. under care of Bryan Palmer; (Philippina) Jane Lara campaign in Toronto Centre.*

*\*2003-03Mar15 Iraq invaded, mass demonstrations of 30,000 at Yonge & Dundas, Toronto*

*\*2003-03Mar 20 First mass bombing of Baghdad*

*2003-05May5 Minutes of FG: Discussion on Fourth International & FG donation (diverted); Dowson archives report – internet project; Anti-war report – conference on Iraq war*

*2003-06June3 Minutes of FG: Codina mistrial appeal possible; Educational on changed nature of the Fourth International; FI published slur on Dowson; defence of Cuban Revolution with persecution of*

*dissidents; Attachment: Law Times June 30/03 "Charges of jury tampering at Codina's second trial"*

*2003-06June17 Minutes of FG: Correspondence & Educational: on Cuba's repression of dissidents*

*2003-07July3 Minutes of FG: (continuation) discussion on development and problems in Cuba*

*2003-08Aug21 Minutes of FG: Discussion double issue of (FI) International Viewpoint on fundamental change in its modus operandi – for a "pluralistic F.I." -- adaptation to non-Trotskyist currents; Jewish Peace Forum report*

*2003-09Sept11 Minutes of FG: Discussion on NDP municipal & provincial campaigns*

*2003-10Oct16 Minutes of FG: NDP discussion: Bob Rae legacy dampens strong NDP campaign; NDP ahead of the class in Ontario; Toronto mayoralty candidate Miller advancing; Council of Canadians conference report*

*2003-11Nov6 Minutes of FG: Kopyto educational on imperialism – reference to Lenin, the Iraq war, interpenetration of capital, pauperization of colonial peoples, the alleged sell-out of the left (Hitchens); increased currency speculation; NDP municipal election, likelihood of Miller success; Lois Bedard's 80*

*2003-11Nov19 Minutes of FG: Miller mayoralty victory lacked a slate of supporters in council due to labor prevarication on issues & candidates.*

*2003-12Dec11 Minutes of FG: NDP & Doctorow trip to China – independent unionism on the rise; increasing militancy among Chinese workers, moves towards privatization of economy; NDP: Toronto mayor elect Miller lacks social base to combat right-wing on council.*

## **2004**

*2004-02Feb24 Minutes of FG: Discussion on anti-war issues – ballistic weapons in Canada; Radical left meeting with Scottish Socialist Party speaker*

*2004-03Mar23 Minutes of FG: Anti-war demonstration of 10,000; Open Letter against the weaponization of space with US military in Canada*

*\*2004-Mar30: FG views first 3 parts of McKenna film series on the Korean War*

*\*2004-June2 John D. Visits National Archives to view Dowson archives work in progress*

*2004-09Sept27 Minutes of FG: John D. Website work report – financing; Labor's "let's live with free trade" line silencing NDP and Layton; Attachment: financial appeal re website development and payment of loans for the Dowson memorial; pledges outstanding*

*2004-10Oct14 Minutes of FG: Political discussion on NDP support for Liberal Party in Parliament*

*2004-11Nov2 Minutes of FG: Educational report on FG response to (James) Petras and Doug Williams in Canadian Dimension over left's attitude to Israel; Discussion of U.S. elections*

*2004-11Nov20 Minutes of FG: National Archives grants tax credits for Dowson archives; Significance of death of Arafat; NDP riding reports, Attachment re financing Dowson website development.*

## **2005**

- 2005-02Feb9 *Minutes of FG: Educational: on the Canadian nationalism debate*
- 2005-03Mar14 *Minutes of FG: Educational: Kopyto on the Palestinian question (3 p)*
- 2005-04Apr5 *Minutes of FG: Velma Demerson meeting report (Kopyto)*
- 2005-05May5 *Minutes of FG: Report on large Tariq Ali meeting; Educational on Venezuela & Chavez*
- 2005-07July7 *Minutes of FG: Educational: Doctorow on Canadian nationalism*
- 2005-09Sept15 *Minutes of FG: Educational on Black focus schools*
- 2005-10Oct19 *Minutes of FG: Educational on Turkey and the European Union*
- 2005-11Nov22 *Minutes of FG: Educational: on Kopyto's "Say NO to Sharia law!" polemic (5pp)*

## **2006**

- 2006-01Jan30 *Minutes of FG: Report on NDP's federal election campaign; Layton tightly managed*
- 2006-02Feb13 *Minutes of FG: Educational on Québec Solidaire conference in Montreal*
- 2006-03Mar7 *Minutes of FG: NDP: evaluation of Hargrove's position for a coalition*
- 2006-03Mar21 *Minutes of FG: Discussion on Quebec and our pamphlets on self-determination*
- 2006-05May8 *Minutes of FG: NDP report – federal convention in Quebec in September*
- 2006-05May23 *Minutes of FG: Educational on Bolivia, the emergence of Morales as popular leader.*
- 2006-06June6 *Minutes of FG: Educational on Cuba, the nature of the Castro leadership, dissidents*
- 2006-11Nov28 *Minutes of FG: Educational on Liberal leadership: "Canada a nation of nations(?)"*
- 2006-12Dec11 *Minutes of FG: Educational on Atwood's "Survival" and Canadian culture*

## **2007**

- 2007-02Feb15 *Minutes of FG: Dowson archives & Canadian nationalism; Kopyto on Cuba*
- 2007-03Mar7 *Minutes of FG: Discussion on Venezuela, the nature of Chavez leadership & Trotskyism*
- 2007-05May10 *Minutes of FG: Discussions on the Quebec elections, and French & Scottish elections*
- (end of archive)*